



vision

The Tampa Bay Asthma Coalition

2007 Community Involvement Conference

Jacksonville, FL June 19-22, 2007

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Our Vision

- The Tampa Bay Asthma Coalition promotes asthma awareness throughout the greater Tampa Bay area.
- The coalition facilitates the integration of a variety of community leaders and partners to help promote asthma awareness placing special emphasis on the particularly susceptible population of children and/or low income populations.



Activities include:

- Organization of 1st Tampa Bay Asthma Coalition
- Educating students with asthma awareness material for them to take home to their parents, thus improving indoor air quality at home
- Providing educational material for daycare families
- Outreach to the community on asthma triggers at EPC events and other health fairs
- Public service announcements on asthma triggers on the government cable station
- Creation of a TBAC website for information and resources



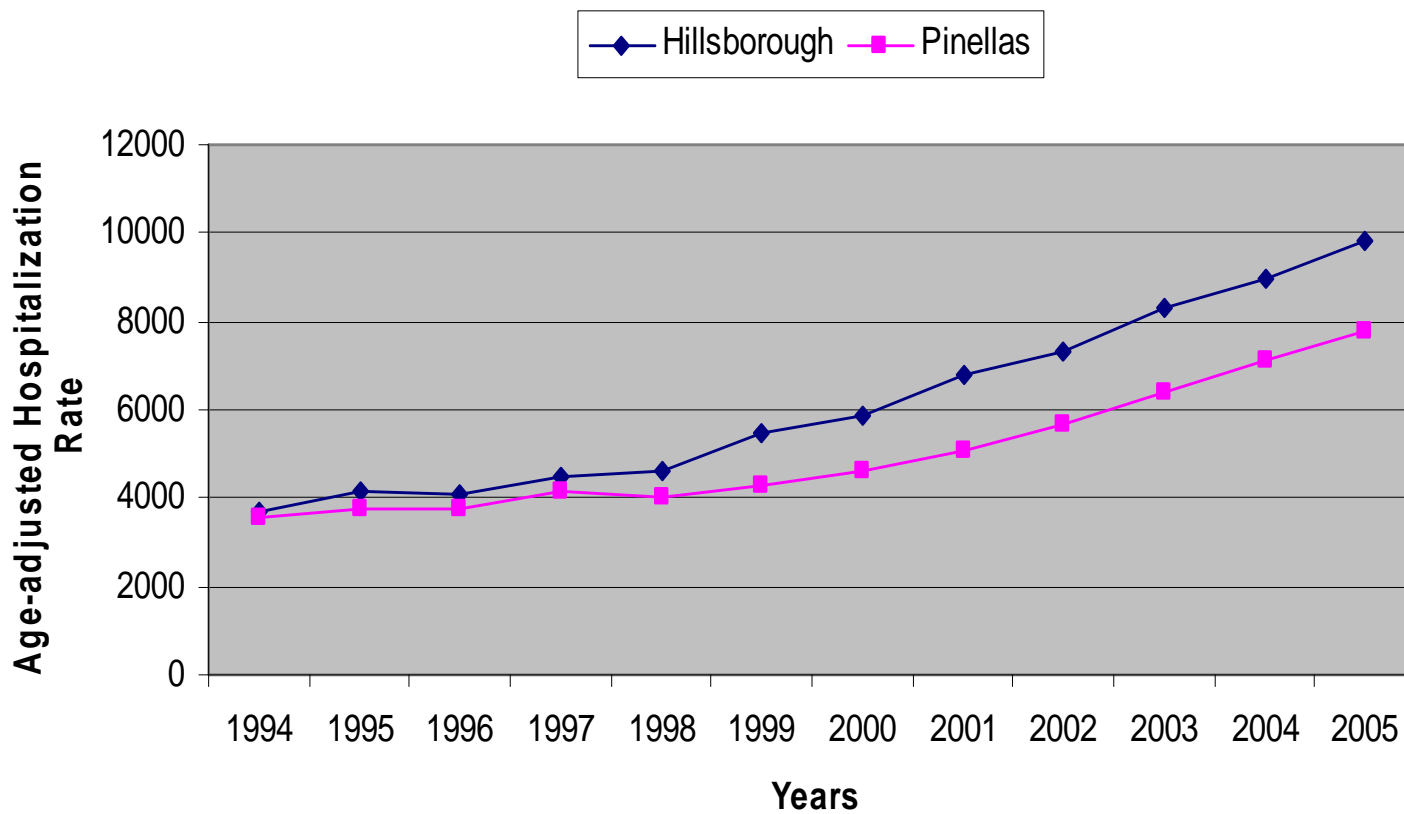
What are the TBAC Goals?

- Improve the health and quality of life of those affected by asthma
- Raise community awareness

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Age-Adjusted Hospitalization Rate From Asthma in Hillsborough and Pinellas Counties





...and TBAC Program

Objectives related to its goals?

- Through education, reduce exposure to environmental risk factors including:
 - Environmental Tobacco Smoke
 - Dust
 - Pests
 - Mold/fungi
 - Animal dander
 - Odors and sprays



Objectives Continued

- Improve self-management of asthma by:
 - Providing access to asthma professionals
 - Avoiding environmental triggers through education
- Reduce childhood morbidity measured by:
 - Fewer emergency room visits
 - Fewer hospitalizations
 - Reduced frequency in asthma attacks
 - Fewer days of school/work lost



So, why Asthma and not some other disease?

- Epidemic
- Common & Costly
- #1 cause of absenteeism
- 600 children die; 150,000 are hospitalized each year (Tampa Bay)
- Most prevalent cause of childhood disability



What does the environment have to do with asthma?

- Children are especially vulnerable to environmental exposures
- “Triggers” are clearly linked to asthma attacks
- Environment may contribute to the onset of asthma
- Typical environmental triggers are...



Environmental Triggers



ETS



Dust Mites



Molds and Fungi



Odors and Sprays



Pests



Animals



Environmental Tobacco Smoke

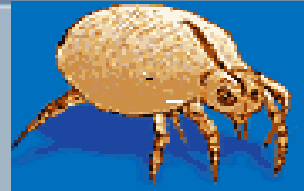
Tobacco smoke from a burning end of a cigarette, pipe, cigar, or smoked breathed out by a smoker is an irritant and a strong asthma trigger.



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Dust Mites



Dust mites are microscopic insects that eat dead skin. The build up of these mites and their droppings becomes a trigger for those with asthma.



Pests



Many houses have problems with pests such as cockroaches. People with asthma can be allergic to the dust that forms from cockroach droppings and body parts. This dust is a very strong asthma trigger.

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Molds and Fungi



Molds and fungi grow on damp materials in houses. They look like discolored fuzzy areas and may have a musty odor. Many people are allergic to molds and they are common asthma triggers.



Animals

Dander, urine, and saliva from pets in the house can be asthma triggers.





Odors and Sprays



Strong odors and fumes such as home deodorizers, laundry products, cleaning products, and perfumed personal care products are also asthma triggers.



So, with a little education and outreach regarding environmental triggers ...we can help control asthma triggers...



How did we begin the grant process in Tampa?

- 2006- attended Asthma Forum DC
- Were educated on growing asthma problem
- Were tasked by the EPC (only outdoor air) to form an asthma coalition
 - To educate parents, teachers, students
 - On triggers in homes, schools, day cares



Where did we go for funding?

- EPA grant opportunity *“2006 indoor Environments: Reducing Public Exposures”*
- October, 2006 mailed proposal out
- May, 2007 received “Notice of Award”



Steps in between grant application and notice of award ...

- Contacted groups, people, etc we thought would be interested in joining a coalition
- Set up general meeting
- Discussed funding opportunity
- Draft sent around to all interested
- Letters of support
- Sent in Grant proposal
- Began coalition without funding



Letters of Support from...



- American Lung Association
- Allergy & Asthma Foundation of America
- Hillsborough County School Board
- Pinellas County School Board
- Pinellas County Day Care
- Hillsborough Health Department
- St. Joseph's Children's Hospital
- Univ. of South Florida
- Hillsborough Community College
- And others...



...more steps

- Published first newsletter
- Working on joint brochure funded by one of our members
- Began coalition website tbac@epchc.org
- Had first "CONTACT" from parent of asthmatic
 - Student denied air purifier in class
 - Coalition met, then had a teleconference to discuss solutions
 - Parent hired lawyer and settled

Newsletter...pg 1 of 4...

June 2007

June 2007
Volume 1, Issue 1
Summer Newsletter

Tampa Bay Asthma Coalition



Introducing the Newly-Formed Tampa Bay Asthma Coalition

The Environmental Protection Commission of Hillsborough County is pleased to introduce the newly-formed Tampa Bay Asthma Coalition (TBAC). Funded through a grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the Coalition is a community-based, voluntary health collaborative dedicated to improving the quality of life for persons with asthma. Coalition members include USF College of Public Health, St. Joseph's Children's Hospital, Hillsborough Community College, Hillsborough County Health Department, Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America, American Lung Association, Take Charge Lifestyle Management and Steps to a Healthier Hillsborough.

How's the Air?

*Find out by calling
EPC's Air Quality
Index hotline at
813.627.2626*

Through education and outreach, TBAC helps to bring effective self-management to those with asthma, including efforts to reduce asthma triggers in the environment, thus reducing the burden of asthma and improving air quality for everyone. We welcome new members to our coalition and hope to increase public awareness of the growing incidence of asthma in our community. For additional information, please contact Debbie Price at 813.627.2600, ext. 1289 or Barbara Motte at 813.627.2600, ext. 1008. You may also e-mail the Coalition at tbac@epche.org.

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Need Some Reasons to Quit Smoking?

*Kids, Asthma, and Second Hand Smoke
by Dotti Groover*

Most people understand the negative effects that smoking can have on their own health, including an increased risk of heart attacks and lung cancer, but often need some extra motivation to quit smoking. Understanding the effects that second hand smoke has on our kids may help a person give up the smoking habit for good.

Fortunately, most mothers-to-be, understand the negative effect that smoking during pregnancy may have on their unborn baby. These effects can include having a small or underweight baby, and possibly having a baby with abnormal lung function.



(Continued on page 2)



So, we formed the coalition...

what else have we done?



Calendar of Events- 2007

Asthma Related

- April 11- Flavors of Hillsborough
- April 22- Earth Day at Lowry Park
- April 26- Earth Force Youth Summit
- May- Clean Air Month
- May- High School Photography Exhibition
- May 1- World Asthma Day
- May 3- Clean Air Fair
- May- Clean Air Exhibit County Center
- June 16- Miles for Moffitt Run



Notice of Award 4/27/07

- Project title:
 - Education and Outreach Program of the Tampa Bay Asthma Coalition on Indoor Air Asthma Triggers
- Description:
 - Addresses indoor air quality issues by using available indoor air pollution info and integrating it with an asthma public awareness and education campaign designed to reach schools and communities in Tampa, Florida.



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The Tampa Bay Asthma Coalition

Thank you!